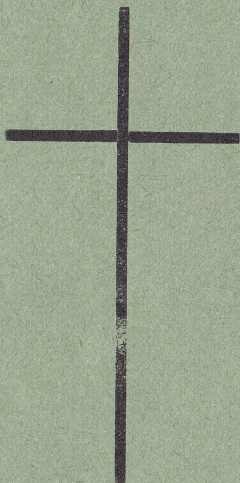


**ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MILNROW**

The Messenger



MAY, 1971

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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THE
MESSENGER

WHAT IS

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MAY

1971

Price 2p

Dear Friends,

The communications explosion has already had radical effects on our society. 'Viewing' is taking over from 'reading.' Even in starting a letter like this, I run the risk that many an eye will not complete the reading of this article, but casually stray to some more chatty piece of news on another page. What reading we do is often done in very small snatches.

It follows then that what people 'view' or 'see' through a medium like television is very important. It is likely in the present and future to have an impact in determining how and what we think, whether it is the commercial with its hidden persuading power or a documentary on abortion. The religious programmes on television have a unique chance to convey to millions the riches and breadth of the Kingdom of God.

In our United service on Palm Sunday, the 'visual' was used in preference to the read 'word' to convey the scene of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. It is always hard to judge response and reaction, or gauge impact and effect. One look on the faces of children (and adults) showed that the incident would be retained in people's memories.

Before your eye strays! - let's get the point of this: YOU CAN'T START FROM WHERE YOU THINK PEOPLE SHOULD BE, YOU MUST START FROM WHERE PEOPLE ARE. As society changes, so people change, ways of communication change. The church may grit its teeth and put its back to the wall, but in the end she has to face the world as it is. This is what Christ did personally. He didn't stand back and deliver pungent orations, he got alongside ordinary people and faced their problems.

As Christians, we may have to give more time to rethinking where people are. No church can function and make its impact on society if she is ignorant of the patterns and changes in social habits.

Otherwise the local church will be a lone voice in a wilderness. Whatever Whitsuntide means traditionally to us, its real message is that 'God's Spirit is with His people.' This we can only show through an awareness, a faith and a determination to do more than we have ever done for our Lord. We are 'visual' examples of what we believe and accept in Christ.

Yours sincerely,

Glyn Jenkins.

WELCOME IN MEMBERSHIP OF OUR CHURCHES

AT ST. STEPHEN'S on April 4th

Mrs. Florence Bamford of 7 Birch Crescent.

Mrs. Christine Bamford of 13 Birch Crescent.

AT LITTLEBOROUGH on April 11th

Mr. L.W. Greaves of 38 Fitten St. Rochdale.

Junior Church Members: Robert Ellison,
Janice Greenwood, Beverley Allison, Doan
Allison, Steven Moss, Bryan Hill.

*

BAPTISMS

AT LITTLEBOROUGH on March 28th

Stephanie Mills, of 86 Barnes Meadows.

Robert Alan Schofield, of 44 Gale

Wendy Greenwood of 32 Ealees Road.

*

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. & Mrs. Bill Griffiths,
Littleborough Secretary, on the birth of ANTHONY
JAMES on 21st April.

Condolances to brother Andrew on having his nose
pushed out by a 9 lb. 1 oz. rival.

To Mrs. Olive Parsons of "Honresfold" and Mr. Albert
Henry Brassington of Nottingham, on their engage-
ment.

SENIOR SWITCHES

Mr. Jim Wild who has served as Senior Department Superintendent for many years has announced his resignation. His quiet efficiency will still be there, however, for he has agreed to continue as Junior Church Secretary.

It is easy to overlook a job well done and when our Sunday morning worship proceeds so smoothly it is easy to forget that the person who read the lesson had to be asked (and sometimes persuaded or encouraged). Likewise, it is easy to forget that someone made sure that the school was properly set out and that all departments had their registers and other equipment. Because of this there was applause at the teachers meeting the other day, when Jim said he would continue as Junior Church Secretary: his sort of painstaking reliability is worth a lot. A letter has been sent to Jim, to thank him for his services as Senior Superintendent.

There are also two transfers to the Senior Dept. staff, for Mr. Ron. Gillon and Mrs. Ilma Collins have joined the team, and in other departments we welcome three new teachers: Mrs. Clough, Mrs. Roberts and Miss A. Whittaker.

*

A TASTE OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE

It's high time we had a column in praise of our teachers, those hard worked, underthanked voluntary labourers in the vineyard.

This winter has been a particularly demanding time for everyone. Although there has been no scripture exams there has been plenty of pageant work, course study and preparation to keep the mind and body busy. The staffing of our Junior Churches with committed, trained people is one of the continual tasks of the churches.

At the end of April, 9 of our teachers breathed a huge sigh of relief, having completed their Home

Sunday Course under the whiplash of their tutor. This course has involved much reading, essay work, Bible study and practical work, which has been consuming in time and effort. Now we wait the results! (with not a little trepidation). All passed the Preliminary course with flying colours. Good luck teachers, our children can only benefit from your hard work.

JUNIOR CHURCH SNIPPETS

One... The Primary Department paid special visits to Mrs. Isherwood and Mrs. Parkinson in Sheriff Street on March 28th.

Two... Our thanks are expressed to Mrs. C. Rothwell for talking Mr. J. Rothwell into bringing that!!!!
????? donkey to church.

The THRIFT SHOP held 22nd -24th April resulted in a total of £186 for the Church Modernisation Fund.

The Committee are grateful to everyone who helped in any way and would like to thank those who:

Distributed leaflets.

Contributed items for sale.

Provided transport for collection.

Sorted, washed and ironed goods for display.

Helped at each session.

Of course, if YOU hadn't come and bought, it would not have been such a success... THANK YOU!

.....THANK YOU TOO to the Committee:

Mrs. S. Jenkins, Mrs. E. Gillon, Mrs. D. Emmott
& Mr. G. Whitworth.

UKRAINIAN EVENING

Tuesday 18th May 7.30 p.m.

Price 15p

Including Supper

A LADIES' GUILD EVENT

EVERY PERSON CANVASS MAY 23rd - 30th

WHAT IT IS: A Church Census if you like. A chance for us all to rethink our church commitment, the sharing of our talents, the giving of our time, and the pledging of our money.

WHO WILL BE CANVASSED? Church members and close adherents of the church as well as some Junior Church parents.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP? We need 20 - 40 committed people who will act as visitors (to go out in pairs). All people taking part will be fully briefed before setting out. Without such people, the canvass will not be a success. Those not able to do this work, could help by being involved in Christian Aid Week (May 17th-22nd) to allow others to give their time to the Canvass.

Everyone can help by filling up the questionnaire during Canvass Week, and taking up the request for pledging gifts as seriously as possible.

TIMETABLE:

Sunday May 23rd: 6.0 pm. Commissioning Service
(People helping in visiting are asked to meet afterwards (7.15 p.m.)).

Monday - Saturday 24th - 29th May: The Canvass.

Sunday May 30th: Whit Sunday. Special Thanksgiving Services 11.00 am. & 6.0 p.m.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ABOVE CANVASS CANNOT BE UNDERSTATED. RISING COSTS AND COMMITMENTS ARE CAUSING CONCERN. WITH THE RIGHT DETERMINATION AND SACRIFICE, WE CAN HELP SECURE THE FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH AND THE CONTINUATION OF HER WORK.

FAMILY CHURCH RADINGS

May 2nd Luke 12: 35-37a; 54-57. "Use your intelligence"
9th Romans 12: 3-13 "Helping one another"
16th Acts 14: 8-11; 19-22. "Keeping at it."
23rd Eph. 2: 13-19. "The household of God"
30th Acts 2: 1-18 (Whit) "The gift of the spirit."

CHURCH DUTIES. - MILNROW

SIDESMEN FOR MORNING WORSHIP

May	2nd	Mr. H. Mollor	Mr. A. Bruckshaw
	9th	Mr. D. Fursey	Counc. J. Harrison
	16th	LADIES SUNDAY	
	23rd	Mr. J. Collins	Counc. I. Royle
	30th	Mr. W. Holland	Mr. W. Prince
June	6th	Mr. L. Whittaker	Mrs. F. Rao

DEACONS ROTA

		<u>Evening Door Stewards</u>	<u>Vestry Duty</u>
May	2nd	Mrs. A. Wilson	---
		Miss M. Wood	
	9th	Mrs. A. Whitworth	Mr. G. Whitworth
		Mrs. N. Settle	
	16th	LADIES SUNDAY	
	23rd	Mr. H. Whitehead	---
		Mr. G. Whitworth	
	30th	Mrs. A. Scaddon	---
		Mrs. E. Gillon	
June	6th	Mrs. A. Wilson	---
		Mr. B. Clough	

COMMUNION ROTA

PIANIST - EVENING WORSHIP

May	2nd	Mr. B. Clough	May 2nd	Mrs. E. Starkie
		Mr. G. Whitworth	9th	Mr. J. Emmott
June	6th	Mrs. A. Scaddon	23rd	Mrs. C. Hey
		Miss M. Wood	30th	Mr. J. Emmott
			June 6th	Mrs. E. Starkie

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

May	2nd	Mrs. Graham	Mrs. Melvin
	9th	Mrs. J. Cudworth	Mrs. A. Roberts
	16th	Mrs. E. Busill	Miss I. Tither
	23rd	Mrs. Prestwich	Mrs. J. Kay
	30th	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
June	6th	Miss M. Wood	Miss A. Clegg

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

May	2nd	Mrs. S. Jenkins	
	9th	Mrs. D. Bruckshaw	
	16th	Mrs. E. Starkie	Mrs. E. Prince
	23rd	Mrs. E. Busill	Mrs. L. Lord
	30th	Mrs. E. Gillon	
June	6th	Mrs. B. Webber	

MILNROW DIARY

May

- Sun. 2nd 11.00 am. Family Worship
6.00 pm. Rev. G. Jenkins - Communion
- Tues. 4th 7.30 pm. Ladies Guild.
'Rufflette' on Soft Furnishings.
- Wed. 5th 7.30 pm. Bury Cong. Board Rally
Speaker: Dr. E. Routley.
- Fri. 7th 6.00 pm. District Executive: Bury.
- Sun. 9th 11.00 am. Mr. C. Connolly
6.00 pm. Mr. A. Roberts
- Monday - Thursday 10th - 13th: Annual Assembly
C.C.E.W., London
- Sun. 16th 11.00 am.) LADIES SUNDAY: Mrs. B. Evans
6.00 pm.) (Park Congregational Church
- Mon. 17th - Fri. 22nd Christian Aid Week
- Wed. 19th 8.00 pm. District Lay Preachers Meeting
at Heywood.
- Mon. 17th 7.30 pm. Rochdale Local Group of Cong.
Churches: Moore Street.
- Sun. 23rd 11.00 am. Mr. D. O Davies
6.00 pm. Rev. Glyn Jenkins
(Commissioning Service)
- 24th - 29th EVERY PERSON CANVASS WEEK
- Tues. 25th 3.00 pm. Bury & R'dale Women's Guild
Rally at Park Cong. Church
(See page 15)
- Sar. 29th 3.00 pm. Afternoon Tea & Garden Party
at 6 and 24 Ladyhouse Close
in aid of C.C.W.M. Funds (See page 15)
- Sun. 30th 11.00 am.) WHIT SUNDAY- Thanksgiving Service
6.00 pm.) Rev. G. Jenkins

June

- Wed. 2nd 7.30 pm. Deacons meeting

<u>OFFERTORIES:</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Envelopes</u>
March 7th	£6.42	£13.93
14th	£5.51	£13.12
21st	£7.66	£12.92
28th	£4.90	£11.70

Our delegates to the Annual assembly will be the Rev

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

May

Sun. 2nd 10.30 am. Mrs. E. Gillon (Milnrow)
Tues. 4th 7.30 pm. Ladies Guild (Birthday Supper)
Thurs. 6th 6.30 pm. Pilots
Sun. 9th 10.30 am. Rev. G. Jenkins
6.00 pm. Mrs. E. Gillon (Communion)
Thur. 13th 6.30 pm. Pilots
Sun. 16th 10.30 am. Mr. A. Roberts (Milnrow)
Mon. 17th 7.30 pm. Junior Church Staff Meeting
Thur. 20th 6.30 p.m. Pilots
Sun. 23rd 10.30 am. Rev. G. Jenkins
(Family Communion)
Tues. 25th 3.00 pm. Bury & Rochdale Dist. Women's,
Guild Rally at Park Cong. Church
(See page 15)
Thur. 27th 6.30 pm. Pilots
7.45 pm. Men's Fellowship
(Annual Meeting)
Sun. 30th 10.30 am. Procession of Witness
June
Sun. 6th 10.30 am. Mr. A. Cooper (Castleton)

~~*~*

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

May 2nd	Mrs. R. Holt
9th	Mrs. Jowoll
16th	Mrs. Arthur
23rd	Mrs. Harvey
30th	Mrs. C. Hill
June 6th	Mrs. Stott

OFFERTORIES

March	14th	£10.72
	21st	£ 8.34
	28th	£15.43
April	4th	£ 8.47
	11th	£10.00

Glyn Jenkins, Mr. Allan Roberts and Mr.W. Griffiths.

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

SIDESMEN

May 2nd	Mr. Ingham	Mr. Brown
9th	Mr. Barker	Mr. Beattie 10.30 am.
	Mr. Holt	Mr. Simpson 6.00 pm.
16th	Mr. H. Hill	Mr. Nairn
23rd	Mr. A. Booth	Mr. Ingham
30th	Mr. Brown	Mr. Beattie 10.30 am.
	Mr. Barker	Mr. Holt 6.00 pm.
June 6th	Mr. Nairn	Mr. H. Hill

DEACONS COMMUNION ROTA

May 9th	Mr. Beattie	Mr. Simpson 6.00 pm.
23rd	Mr. Griffiths	Mrs. Beattie 10.30 am.
June 13th	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Simpson

COFFEE ROTA

May 2nd	Mrs. J. Hobbs	Mrs. J. Horridge
9th	Mrs. D. Mallinson	Mrs. A. Merrick
16th	Mrs. A. Tomlinson	Mrs. H. Vincent
23rd	Mrs. J. Simson	Mrs. E. Booth
30th	Mrs. P. Lightfoot	Mrs. K. Hill
June 6th	Mrs. B. Hartley	Mrs. S. Moss

CRECHE ROTA

May 2nd	Beryl Hartley	Stella Moss
9th - 30th	No details	

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

May 2nd	"Use your intelligence"	
	Luke 12: 35-40; 54-57	Steven Moss
9th	"Helping one another"	
	Romans 12: 1 - 13	Mrs. K. Hill
16th	"Keeping at it"	
	Acts 14: 8-11; 19 -23.	E. Leach
23rd	"The household of God"	
	Ephesians 2: 13- 22	Mrs. C. Hill
30th	"The gift of the Spirit"	
	Acts 2: 1 - 18	Martin Law
June 6th	"Learning to Serve"	
	Philippians 2: 1 - 11	Esther Bennett

SHIPSHAPE

At the Junior Church Anniversary on the 25th April, a pageant was presented entitled "All Aboard." This involved the mission ship "John Williams VII," and its journeys in the Pacific. We were lucky to have a ten ft. by five ft. boat to use for this and once we had that we were, as they say, "sailing."

FOR PANTO

A Jumble Sale organised by the Junior Church to raise funds for the Christmas pantomime realised £19. Many thanks to all who helped and gave jumble.

UP THE HILL

£12 was donated by the sponsors of Mr. H.N. Hill who took part in the Midnight Marathon walk in aid of the Leonard Cheshire Home "Honresfold." Well done Mr. Hill.

NOTICE FOR BEES

Will all Busy Bees please note that goods for the raffles should be given to Mrs. Beryl Hartley on the Sunday prior to the event, please.

CRECHE CHIEF

Mrs. Walls has been appointed leader of the creche.

PILOT CAMP

The Annual N.W. Summer Camp will be at

Barnston Dale, on the Wirral
from 14th - 21st August.

Cost:

Pilots ...	...	...	...	...	£5.00
Those not at school but under 18..	£5.50				
Adults ...	...	...	...	...	£6.25

There will be a lower age limit of 10, although there is a waiting list of those younger.

Names should be handed in during May to any Pilot Officer. (deposit of 50p).

There will be a meeting of officers at Tonge Moor Congregational Church, Bolton on Saturday May 15th at 2.30 p.m.

This is mainly to discuss camp, but also other topics of general interest.

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at 7.45 p.m.

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A BUSY BEE EVENT

C.C.W.M.

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to transfer 'your perishers' to the schoolroom).

AT LITTLEBOROUGH

FUTURE SPLASH NEWS! The World Mission Committee
at Littleborough have agreed to 'Launch' a
SPONSORED SWIM in aid of Home & Overseas Mission.

Now's the chance to practice your swimming and
see how many lengths you can do in 10 - 15
minutes.

DATE: Friday, JULY 30th 1971

PLACE: Castleton Baths

TIME: 7.45 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.

Over 40 swimmers needed!

Enrolment and sponsor forms will be available
shortly, from members of the committee:

Mr. Steven Moss, Mrs. B. Leach, Mr. J. Simpson.

WHAT PRICE UNION?

The Church of North India has been established and it is thrilling to be a member. On 29th November 1970, in Nagpur, the Church of India (the Anglican Communion), the British and the Australian Methodist Conference, The Disciples of Christ, The Brethren of India, The Baptist Church of North India and the United Church of North India, became one.

"The glory which Thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as we are one, I in them and Thou in me; that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that Thou has sent me and has loved them even as Thou hast love me."

.....John 17.

These words of Christ come with a fresh meaning to us now as members of a United Church. How "perfectly" we shall become one, we don't know. We have a great many problems ahead - administrative ones mainly. By March we hope to have formed the Diocesan Council, which will take the place of our separate regional councils. Finance and Property will cause many difficulties, much heart searching and may be many differences of opinion, but this is the price we have to pay in order that we may be one. The price will be great, both in matters of administration and doctrine and worship, BUT WE CAN ALREADY SEE THAT IT WILL BE WORTHWHILE.

.....Jean Stolton (Enterprise).

BURY AND ROCHDALE DISTRICT
WOMEN'S GUILD

A Summer meeting will be held on Tuesday, 25th May at Park Congregation Church, Ramsbottom at 3.0 pm.

The President, Mrs. E. Gillon, will preside and Mrs. J. Wilkinson of Castleton Church will be the speaker.

Afternoon tea will be served at a charge of 12¹/₂p and in order to assist our friends at Park with the catering arrangements, will those ladies who intend to go, please give their name to the guild secretary (Milnrow - Mrs. C. Clough) by Sunday 16th May at the latest.

Transport: From Newhey - 1.40 pm. bus

From Rochdale 2.10 pm. (no.19 Bury)

Further details from Mrs. Clough or Mrs. Emmott.

NO MORE "THINK ABOUT IT"

The Editor has run out of puzzles to set for the "Think About It" column, and that seems to be the best available excuse for discontinuing it.

In its place, starting next month will be a new regular feature under the heading "Beyond The Church Walls." It is often said that the Church should be outward looking and this entails among many other things, knowing about outside bodies. Each month we will give a short account of some organisation which tries to help the community in the Rochdale District. The first article in this series will be about "THE SAMARITANS."

The Last "Think About It"

Mollyduckers, cuddies, Koggywhifters, SOUTHpaws, CackHANDERS are all words for left handers.

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and

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CHURCH SECRETARY: Mr. Allan Roberts,
- MILNROW 54 Beechfield Road,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 42243

CHURCH SECRETARY: Mr. W. Griffiths,
- LITTLEBOROUGH 63 Shore Mount,
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